

19th September, 1960.

COCOM Document No. 4138

COORDINATING COMMITTEERECORD OF DISCUSSIONONPROPOSED UNITED KINGDOM EXPORT OF ATWIN TAPE UNIT TO POLAND8th September, 1960

Present: Belgium(Luxembourg), France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

References: COCOM Documents 4010 and 4032.

1. The UNITED STATES Delegate stated that, on the basis of the additional information provided by the United Kingdom Delegation, his authorities had carefully reconsidered the present case and had concluded that the proposed export, if consummated, would provide a highly undesirable contribution to the Soviet Bloc strategic potential. The shipment of this equipment would reveal to the Soviet Bloc advanced technology in the magnetic recording field and supply a unit having a wide variety of strategic uses. The instrument in question incorporated advanced technology of strategic value which was not known to the Sino-Soviet Bloc and which could be extracted from the examination of a single exported instrument. The advanced technology related to the tape unit's high speed and the high density rate enabling much information to be compressed into a small space and fed in and out of the unit at a very high speed. Bloc technicians could determine from this machine the means of producing tape with this high density rate and high speed. These characteristics were of prime significance in military applications such as missile launching. This type of tape unit was not used in business computers but was principally used in electronic computers covered by Item 1565 and having direct strategic applications. Accordingly, any "research" undertaken with such equipment would almost certainly be of a military nature. In conclusion the Delegate explained that the views of the United States authorities, as herein set forth, were conveyed to the United Kingdom authorities in London during the Committee's summer recess.

2. The UNITED KINGDOM Delegate stated that his authorities had taken note of the United States Delegation's reply. He recalled that certain questions had been put to him during the discussion of the 16th June. In paragraph 5 of COCOM 4032, the French Delegate had raised three questions to which he could give the following answers.

1. Computer reading rate 2,000 words/minute.
2. 2 heads, 8 tracks each.
3. No.

Similarly in paragraph 8 of COCOM 4032, the United States Delegation had asked four questions, to which the following answers had been provided:

- (a) 104 inches/second
- (b) 100 Binary digits/inch
- (c) 8 tracks/head
- (d) Reverse time less than 10 m. sec. Stop time less than 8 m. sec. Start time 7 ± 3 m. sec.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

CCCGM Document No. 4138

The Delegate noted that, despite this additional information, the United States Delegation had maintained their objection to the United Kingdom request.

3. The NETHERLANDS Delegate stated that, after a technical study of the case, his authorities wished to raise objection to the proposed export in view of the advanced technology incorporated therein.

C O N F I D E N T I A L